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PRESS RELEASE

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Federal Indictment and Arrest of Murder for Hire Ring Members Announced

Washington, D.C. - David M. Long of Temple Hills, Maryland has been arrested in connection with an ongoing Federal Bureau of Investigation/Metropolitan Police Department Safe Streets Task Force investigation into a heroin trafficking enterprise that paid for three victims to be murdered, announced U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr., Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office, Shawn Henry, and Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Chief Cathy L. Lanier.

Mr. Long was arrested pursuant to a fifteen-count indictment charging him with multiple counts of conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering, murder in aid of racketeering, use of interstate commerce facilities in the commission of murder for hire, conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than one kilogram of heroin, and related counts. Two other defendants are charged in the indictment. The indictment charges that Mr. Long paid \$10,000 to his co-defendants to murder a Washington, D.C. man on January 18, 2007. Mr. Long paid the same co-defendants to murder two additional victims who survived the shootings.

Defendant Long made his initial appearance on the charges this afternoon in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. If convicted, Mr. Long and his co-defendants could be sentenced to life in prison without release.

This prosecution grew out of a long-term FBI/MPD alliance called the Safe Streets Task Force that targets violent drug trafficking gangs in the District of Columbia. The Safe Streets Initiative is funded in part by the Baltimore Washington High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area as well as the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. The Safe Streets initiative involves more than 150 Safe Streets Task Forces around the country that combat street gangs by combining federal, state and local police resources. The task forces, which began in 1992 in Los Angeles and the District of Columbia, address gang activity including drug-related crimes. Sharing resources, manpower and intelligence allows federal prosecutors to focus on securing the maximum sentences and penalties for gang members found guilty. By working through a task force, investigators can focus on the entire criminal enterprise, instead of prosecution of individual gang members.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of criminal laws and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

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